

LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

Vol. 5, No. 3

264

SEPTEMBER 15, 1953

CONTRACT SIGNED AS UNION SETS SIGHTS ON NEW GAINS

EXPULSED!

Roll of Dishonor

To their everlasting dishonor, the following are those who scabbed or otherwise refused to abide by the majority decisions of their co-workers.

They have been expelled from our Union and already feel the scorn and contempt of all those with whom they come in contact.

Katherine Barry—Tables
Jean Benson—MCU
Adele A. Black—114 Dept.
Santa Cutroneo—BTO
Jeanne Delormes—FSS
Carolyn Donovan—RMMW
Florence Grace—116 Dept.
Julia Kroll—RMMW
Ira Moore—WPC3
Ceil Selkow—RMMW
Adelaide Watson—903 Dept.

EXPULSED

and already out of the job

Theresa Gouaux—W3
Murray Wolff
Christine Gray—279 Dept.

Awaiting trial for scabbing

Elaine Wallenbergh—
17 Dept.

Living Costs At New High

The cost of living reached an all-time record high in mid-July, according to figures released by the United States Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The price index stood 14.7 per cent higher than the averages based on prices from 1947-49. It should be remembered that those years were selected because the sharp rise in living costs that followed the knifing of price controls in 1946 could then be hidden.

If the index were based on the base years of 1935 to 1939 it would now stand at 191.8 instead of 114.71.

Sharpest rises were in such basic items as rent, food, medical care and transportation. Steepest food increases were in milk, eggs, pork and poultry.



Members are still talking of the wonderful time they had at the Union's Welfare Fund Dance at the Hotel Commodore in 1950. Dance Committee predicts that the October 4th affair will top all others.

Dance Tickets Hotter Than Weather As Members Support Welfare Fund

As the early days of September begin to click past, Shop Stewards reported that tickets to the Local I-S Welfare Fund Dance at the Hotel Astor on October 4th were selling faster and faster and *FAST-ER*.

Most of the department leaders told of parties being planned, with individuals buying as many as fourteen tickets. It was only in isolated spots that members did not seem ready to support the Welfare Fund in the wonderful job it has done in aid of the Union's sick and needy.

Vincent Lopez, George Romero and his Rhumbas and the promise of an outstanding floor show were proving to be irresistible attractions for all those who love a good time.

For every one who questioned the wisdom of holding such an affair on a Sunday evening there were ten who thought it was a fine idea. Biggest advantage that most saw in it was that such a magnificent ballroom and band would not have been available to us on any other night, even for two or three times the price we are paying.

Dance Committee Chairman Tony Puca was anxiously watching the response to more than one

hundred colorful posters and the salesmanship of the stewards. Based on that response he was ready to exercise the Union's option on the world-famous Astor Roof to provide comfortable dancing space for an overflow crowd from the main ballroom.

If the advance sale of tickets warrants the use of the Astor Roof the Dance Committee guarantees that the same music and entertainment will be heard there as in the ballroom.

Said Welfare Board Chairman Cathryn Hall, "Every member of Local I-S knows of the tremendous services performed by the Union's Welfare Board. All that

it has done has been made possible by the Welfare Fund. This Fund is supported by the voluntary contributions made by the members. The purchase of tickets for our coming dance is one of the most important ways of making your contribution. Buy your tickets today!"

President Sam Kovenetsky added to the appeal by saying, "Many organizations maintain a Welfare Fund through compulsory assessments. We can be proud that we in Local I-S have always been able to depend on the membership's support of our affairs as the means of raising the money needed for this valuable work."

"Thousands of our members," the President continued, "have received the direct benefits of the work of our Welfare Board. I am certain that they, along with the Stewards, will help make our dance a huge success."

"Those who wish to support the Dance but are unable to attend, may turn the tickets they buy over to the Union and we will give them to servicemen on leave in the city."

Talent Search

For many months the Dance Committee has maintained a diligent search for the kind of music

(Continued on page 3)

Exactly one hundred and forty-three days after the now famous strike of 8,000 members of Local I-S forced Macy's to agree "in principle" with the Union's demands, the last "i" was dotted and the last "t" crossed on the contract embodying those gains.

During the four months and twenty-three days that were spent in drafting the document that gave added security and higher pay to the Union's members, the Local's officers and legal staff had to devote major attention to the job of guaranteeing that the final agreement fully protected the Union's hard-won victory.

The responsibility for seeing that the language of the contract accurately described the many gains won by the Union fell on President Sam Kovenetsky, Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and George Gurian and attorney Asher Schwartz. The Negotiating Committee reviewed the final results before signing it.

Time after time they had to reject the wording offered by Macy's. Each such rejection ended in disputes and conferences that were reminiscent of the original negotiations.

(Continued on Page 2)

Labor Mourns Irving Simon

Irving Simon, 58 year old President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers Union, CIO, died of a heart ailment during the night of September 2nd.

His death brought to a close more than 35 years of devotion to the trade union movement.

In the 1930's he became the initiator of the "New Era Committee" within the AFL Retail Clerks.

When this bid for trade union democracy failed he helped lead the movement of salespeople into CIO in 1937.

He was the Senior Vice President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers Union until December 20, 1948, at which time he was elevated to the Presidency. He held that post until his death.

The officers and members of Local I-S mourn the loss to the labor movement of Irving Simon, a friend and leader to all who work.



if you . . .
your husband
or wife . . .
or children
under 18

NEED BLOOD
FROM THE BLOOD BANK
all you have to do is
CALL WA 4-4540

And Rest Assured That
Local I-S Will Do the Rest

BRANCH STORE NEWS

PARKCHESTER

It begins to look to me as though the record-breaking hot spell dried up all of our usual sources of news. Despite a series of SOS calls for information regarding the happenings in all of our departments, I got exactly NO response! It's not too hard to understand this, but it does seem to me that whether it is hot or cold, life—and the Union—goes on . . . With the work of our Local 1-S Welfare Board depending on the amount of money we make on our October 4th dance at the Hotel Astor we should all make it our personal business to buy at least one ticket and to aim for a nice big turnout from up here. We know how deeply appreciated the work of the Welfare Board is. Just ask any member who has been out sick and who has gotten a get-well card and a gift. It's a terrific feeling. The work of the Welfare Board needs our willing and all-out support—so let's dig in and do a job in the next couple of days. The latest word from downtown is that on top of two wonderful bands there is going to be a floor show of top entertainment. Let's go! . . . Just by way of another reminder—Our Divisional Meeting is on the 21st of this month at the Chester House. It's due to start at 6 P.M. There's lots to be said and done—so let's all be there.



Fay Mattimiro

FLATBUSH



Anne Bowen

Vacations are not over yet. Doty McCrum just received her drivers' license and headed for parts unknown. Ruth Vickers to Ditty-war-Ditty—neither town nor city, but may wind up at Sag Harbor. Jerry Kochansky just back from Europe. Gertrude Greene had a wild time in New England. AB (your reporter) back from Va. with a few lbs. added to her fig. . . . Several others back telling about their unusual experiences, but I can't write about it unless I get it straight from YOU . . . Jan Rinello and Shirley Cherry back to college after a remarkable vacation spent in Macy's Flatbush . . . Sy Bebanco to H.S. as a Jr. Exec. Lots of luck, Sy . . . Have you seen Helen M. in her new Bikini? Photos on display in F10 secret hiding place . . . Mary Friedman another girl, just as cute as the first . . . Grace Sevasta much improved after her sudden operation . . . R. Finkle feeling much better since her accident. Take it easy Renee . . . Don't forget the Bus Outing on Sept. 20 Everybody's welcome. Bring your camera and plenty of lunch . . . The Flatbush Men's Bowling Club, sanctioned by the ABC will start their season the 3rd week of September. See Oscar Miettinen in Men's Dept., and Doty McCrum in Children's Dept. . . . See your Steward for tickets for the Oct. 4 Union Dance!

WHITE PLAINS

First thing of importance to note is the change of meeting place for our Divisional Meeting to be held on September 28th. We have had to move it from Mt. Carmel Church to the UE Hall on the corner of Main Street and South Lexington Avenue. Let's aim for 100% attendance . . . Our Shop Stewards met as a group for the first time since the beginning of the summer. Now that they are getting together, again, be sure to see that all problems are taken up with them as soon as possible . . . The sale of tickets for the Union dance at the Hotel Astor on October 4th has been good wherever work has been done. Shop Stewards by now should have done an all-out job to guarantee a splendid turnout from up here. Proceeds of the dance go to the Welfare Fund . . . Shop Stewards should be sure to report all absences due to illness to our White Plains Welfare Board representative, Frances Petluck. It's the only way our sick members will be looked after by the Welfare Board . . . We were all glad to welcome back Keith Toucey who rejoins us after two years in the Marine Corps. . . . Congratulations to Minnie Lewis on her promotion from Domestic to Men's Accessories . . . Still looking for a volunteer reporter to take over until Helen Irving is well and back on the job.



Pat Favoino

JAMAICA



Alfred Chiarella

Out on vacation are Pauline Sutter of J19, Alice Ainsworth, who is heading for Montauk Point, Charlotte Kreiger of J4, Dorren Heilton, also of J4 and Florence Echeit of J2 who is on her way to Atlantic City . . . Just back from theirs, and looking fit as fiddles are Thea Steinberg of J7 and Joan Richards of the same department, who spent a great time at Liberty, N.Y., Irene Glowacki of J2, Alice Hughes, J7, Bessie Barham, J2, Helen Zeihl who went to Canada, Lillian Gonzales back from Cape Cod, Chris Lonigan who roughed it in Canada, Florence Ahlen, J6, Loretta Bramel, J2, Mae Mahan, J2, Louise Fass, Cashier Packer, tells us that her daughter will soon wed, and Una Linnane of J9 is wishing she were still in Dublin with her daughter . . . Our deepest sympathy to Marty Martino on the death of his father . . . On our promotion lists we have Anne Levy who is going from J8 to J4, and Anthony Nuzzi going to the Paint Department . . . Wedding bells soon to ring for Charles Perno (Packing) and Christine Bellehis, also of Packing, who have announced their engagement. Lots of luck . . . Honeymooning in the Florida Keys is Jean Godsak's (J4) daughter . . . Welcome back to T. Gordon (cashier packer), Helen Viola (J4) and May Jackson (J10) after their illness.

Board Urges Political Action; Hits 'Go-it-Alone-ers'; Names Committees

The Local 1-S Executive Board, at its regular meeting on August 25th approved a Legislative Committee report calling for participation in the Democratic Party Primary election; voted to include two basic points in Divisional Meeting agendas; named a Trial Committee to hear five cases scheduled for mid-September; heard a report on the meeting of the State CIO Executive Board; designated a committee to inquire into the conduct of the Hearn's strike; and approved delegates to the State CIO Convention in late September.

Legislative

Robert Phillips (7th Floor) reporting for the Legislative Committee announced that his group had no recommendations to make with regard to the primary elections for mayoralty candidates. The Committee did, however, strongly recommend that all Local 1-S members who are registered Democrats be sure to vote in the primary race between incumbent Impellitteri and Robert Wagner, Jr. The Board approved the further suggestion that a leaflet be distributed to the membership urging their participation.

Divisional Agendas

The Board specifically approved the inclusion of an anti-discrimination film and a warning on "individual negotiations" on all Divisional Meeting agendas.

The first point was at the recommendation of the Anti-Discrimination Committee as reported for by Chairman John Malone (Display). The film is being made available to Local 1-S by the State Committee Against Discrimination.

The warning against individual negotiations was contained in a report by President Sam Kovenetsky. In the course of his remarks, the President said, "There are too many members who are attempting to take negotiations into their own hands instead of using the established Union channels. Naturally, the company opens its doors to these people in the hopes of weaning them away from the Union."

"Such practices occasionally result in the adjustment of a problem. More often, however, they get nowhere and then come to the Union for help. In the process of going it alone they have all too often destroyed their own case and the Union is unable to get what might have been won had it handled the problem from the start."

"That is why the Constitution says 'no' to this kind of bargaining with supervisors, buyers, or other executives."

"Drastic action is needed to defend the contract and the rights of all our members. That is why," the President declared, "I will bring charges personally against any Board member, Shop Steward or rank and filer who does it in the future!"

Trial Committee

With five trials slated for mid-September, including that of the last untried scab, a new Committee was named by the Board. They are: Earl Fulford (6th Floor), Jerome Harte (5th Floor), Made-

line Lawder (Flying Squad), Daniel Maloney (Receiving), and Beatrice Montgomery (4th Floor).

State CIO

Vice President George Gurian, Local 1-S representative on the Executive Board of the New York State CIO, devoted the major part of his report to that part of the proceedings which concerned the strike at Hearn's.

Prefacing his remarks, he said, "Drastic actions have come into play which may one day hit us and all of the labor movement. We must come to the realization that what is happening to 800 workers can happen to our 8,000 or to the 17 million organized in the country."

Vice President Gurian then went on to say that, "The Hearn's strikers are dealing with a union-buster with money and influence extending all the way to the top of the Labor Board in Washington, D. C. The pickets have been doing a tremendous job, and to date the company campaign has been a flop."

He then went on to review the union-busting steps which were described in detail in the last issue of the Local 1-S NEWS.

Added Vice President Phil Hoffstein, "Bloomingdale management, and Macy's too, have already grown bolder as a result of the attacks by Hearn's against the Union. At Bloomingdale we see the company standing pat on an offer of \$1 a week, after Gimbels

has given \$1.65. At Macy's we see the company trying to substitute policy statements for the contract and generally making themselves as hard to get along with as they can be."

Following the report there were anxious demands from the floor that Local 1-S use its weight on behalf of the 800 Hearn's strikers. The Board agreed that before taking any steps a committee be appointed to meet with CIO leaders to learn what plans they may have in the same direction.

Named to the Committee were: Ann Arata (2nd Floor), Marion Cook (8th Floor), Ceil Curry (Flying Squad), Vincent Gates (9th Floor), Jerome Harte (5th Floor), Cathryn Hall (Financial Secretary), John Malone (Display), Helen Ruderman (Whit Plains), Patrick Ryan (Housekeeping), and Max Wald (Receiving).

Named to attend the State CIO Convention at Lido Beach on September 24, 25 and 26 were: Jerome Harte (5th Floor), Esther Greenberg (Flying Squad), Frieda Pariser (Flatbush), Max Wald (Receiving). One staff administrator will also be designated.

Auxiliary

On a committee formed to study the possibilities of a Union program for those who have retired or otherwise left the store, are: Tom Ferguson (Flatbush), Peter Gilhooley (White Plains), John Malone (Display) and Max Wald (Receiving).

Contract Signed . . .

(Continued from page 1)

President's Statement

Hailing the signing of the contract, President Kovenetsky said, "Let us never forget that our own tremendous strength and unity made this agreement possible. Let us always remember that Macy's entered those negotiations flatly refusing to make any offer at all. And right down to the deadline of our strike call Macy's refused to make concessions that the Union regarded as essential."

"Only the full weight of 8,000 striking men and women finally forced Macy's to back down and recognize the justice of their demands."

"Since April 14 we have all been concerned with the job of enforcing the principles of the contract Macy's agreed to. Through our grievance machinery we have been able to resolve almost all differences of interpretation. In those cases where we were unable to reach any agreement we have taken our case to an impartial arbitrator. In almost every such instance, the position taken by the Union has been upheld. Now that the contract has been signed we have an even firmer base from which to proceed in the fight for still better conditions."

Looking Ahead

In the early days of August, in

an article written for the Local 1-S NEWS, President Kovenetsky warned that, "To fail to prepare now for this coming February would be to invite a dangerous stretch-out of negotiations which could only work to the disadvantage of the entire membership."

At that time he pointed to the fact that six days after the end of the strike, Macy's began to tell the truth about profits that were actually higher than the year before. He pointed to the record-breaking cost of living as requiring further wage increases and concluded by saying: "Our determination and unity of purpose has won us everything we are proud of and enjoy today. The same unity and determination will help us move on to new victories and more of the things we want, need, and have earned by our labor."

Negotiators

On the Negotiating Committee for the contract just signed were: William Atkinson, Anne Berman, Elvio Cotti, Jerome Harte, David Krakauer, John Lee, Sam Levine, Harry Leibowitz, Robert Phillips, Alphonso Ramsey, Charles Rocker, Alfred Smith, Jack Steinman, Morris Telzer, and Max Wald. Alternates on the Committee were: May Fisher, Anthony LaSavia and Jack Toucey.

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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1st Vice Pres.: Philip Hoffstein 2nd Vice Pres.: George Gurian
Editorial Board
Jerome Harte Ann Brown Ceil Curry David Krakauer
Editor: Dick Pastor
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— editorial — Self-Service

We have maintained from the start that the root of the Hearn's strike was the company's switch to a "self-service" operation. That the arrogance of the Hearn's boss led him to seize on that change as an opportunity to destroy the seniority and severance safeguards previously established in the union contract.

Now we hear from a new voice, speaking for the big wheels of the department store industry. Writing in the Christian Science Monitor, under the heading "SELF SERVICE DEPARTMENT STORES", Harry Kenney said, "Today the American customer is in a hurry. He wants to see, feel, decide, buy, and move out—in a hurry."

"Merchants know this and are thinking up new methods to meet this growing customer challenge."

"But they have problems. Gimbel's and Macy's, for instance, are constantly disturbed by the fact that often they lose sales because customers too often cannot reach the counters because of the crowds. What is equally important, they know they are losing customers because many customers will not fight the crowds."

"Also, stores in many cities are hit by the expensive need to pay clerks for eight hours or more of work when customers are more and more crowding their shopping into certain periods of the day, and seldom for more than four hours..."

"The department store of tomorrow may be one huge display case... There will be fewer sales clerks, but an efficient and well-trained staff to assist. Chargeplate clerks and cashiers will be in a single row near the exits."

Mr. Kenney's picture of tomorrow is thought so highly of that it was reprinted as an ad in many newspapers. This, no doubt, is part of the campaign to soften the public up to the point where they will be willing to serve themselves instead of having the courteous attention they now enjoy.

The position of Local 1-S in the face of this threat is a simple one. We will continue to press the fight for higher pay and, shorter hours. We will continue the constant campaign to strengthen our contract. Even as we strengthened our seniority clause last April we shall go on with the fight for still stronger guarantees of security.

We remain confident that by working together we shall continue to afford the greatest protection to the greatest number. Our Union is our strength. We must defend it against all attacks!

Committee Meets With CIO To Discuss Hearn's Strike

At the direction of the Executive Board (see story on Page 2) a Local 1-S committee met with City CIO Council Secretary-Treasurer Morris Iushewitz to discuss the

Hearn's strike and the possibilities of broader participation in it.

Mr. Iushewitz answered all the questions directed to him. He pointed out that a major victory had been scored when the AFL's Retail Clerks Union was forced to withdraw. He described the Union as Hearn's "ace in the hole." He indicated that the withdrawal was a direct result of letters sent by CIO to every AFL and CIO union asking them to bring pressure on the AFL local.

The City CIO leader pointed to the anti-labor attitudes of the new administration and the vicious interpretations now being made of the Taft-Hartley Act as number one problems confronting all of labor.

He assured the Union's representatives that everything possible is being done to win a favorable decision in the four month old strike. He also assured them that Local 1-S would be called upon to participate just as soon as a program was worked out.

Said Vice President Phil Hoffstein, "We are vitally concerned with the fate of the 800 striking workers and are prepared to do all we can to help them win."



In 1952 the Union's Welfare Fund Dance was held at the Park Avenue Armory. The thousands who were there said it was the best they had ever attended. Says the Dance Committee, "Wait until October 4th!"

DANCE TICKETS HOTTER THAN WEATHER...

(Continued from page 1)

and entertainment that would be sure to ring the bell.

Their first major triumph was the signing of Vincent Lopez and his band. Lopez enjoys a tremendous reputation among those who like to dance and those who just like to listen to well played popular music.

Second feather in the Committee's cap was the re-engagement of George Romero and his Rhumbas. His popularity and success among members of Local 1-S was guaranteed after the Union's last dance. At that time the spirit of his Latin music and the entertainment skill of members of his group were among the high points of a very successful evening.

Still warning that the sale of

tickets will be stopped as soon as a capacity crowd is assured, chairman Puca said:

"I must again urge the Shop Stewards to make sure that every person has been given an opportunity to get tickets. We don't want to stop the sale and then have our members tell us that they never even had a chance to get in. Just as soon as you have sold your tick-

ets, turn in your money at the Union office. This is the only way we will know, far enough in advance, whether to reserve the Astor Roof, or not. Remember, dance time is only two weeks away. Let's not leave success to chance!"

Tickets are priced at \$1.75, including tax. All proceeds, after expenses have been met, go to the Local 1-S Welfare Fund.

Macy Actions Demand Most Alert Defense of Contract

Macy's, in two recent actions, has given strong indication of attempting to evade the letter and the spirit of the contract. In their search for loopholes they have often been stopped dead in their tracks by the vigorous processing of grievances.

The first of the two latest incidents involves an attempt to split a department and create a new and lower wage rate.

The second Macy maneuver goes to the heart of the promotional clause contained in the contract.

Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and George Gurian report that every effort they have made to resolve the differences has met with failure. They have expressed the opinion that a correct solution to the problem will not be found in the company's Labor Relations Department.

Based on their reports, President Sam Kovenetsky has directed the Union's law firm of O'Donnell and Schwarz to file for the earliest possible arbitration of the two problems.

Laying Groundwork

The Union's two Vice Presidents, in light of past and present experiences, addressed the following appeal to the entire membership:

It has become more and more

obvious that Macy's will look for any and every way to get out of the responsibilities imposed on them by the contract.

In order for us to make it impossible for the company to escape its obligations to the members of our Union we must use 8,000 pairs of eyes and ears. We must immediately initiate the practice of seeing that every grievance, no matter how small it may seem, is written up.

On the departmental level we must be even more alert than we have been in the past. Once a grievance has been written we must see that it is fully and speedily processed.

At the Divisional level we must be equally certain that we sacrifice none of our rights through neglect.

Only if both of these steps fully protect the contract can we be sure of having the strongest case possible at the third step or before an arbitrator.

Vigilance and determined action were never more necessary than now!

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, enters the hospital you MUST call on the Union office for claim forms immediately on entering or as soon as possible thereafter.

Protect yourself—protect your family—protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

NLRB ELECTION MOVES NEARER

The cumbersome machinery of the National Labor Relations Board continued to creak and grind nearer to an election to determine the right of Macy workers employed for fewer than five days a week to be represented by Local 1-S.

An indication that the Board was giving favorable attention to the Union's demand for an early election was received at a hearing held on September 2nd. Purpose of the hearing was to see if Macy's and Local 1-S could agree on a "cut off" date of workers to be eligible to vote in the election.

The Union, represented by Vice President Phil Hoffstein and attorney Asher Schwartz told the Labor Board that any date was acceptable. The only condition demanded by the Union was that all workers involved, whether eligible to vote or not, be entitled to representation by Local 1-S once the election is over. Another hearing will be held to determine whether the Union's demand will be met.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!

When Margaret Weidner, Telephone Order Board, read in the Local 1-S NEWS of how another worker had won close to \$300 in back pay, she decided that she, too, was entitled to the wage increase ordered by arbitrator Stein in 1952.

She told her story to Administrator Tony Puca, and the wheels began to grind. At every step of the way Macy's refused to acknowledge Margaret's right to the money. When the entire Macy's Labor Relations department had turned him down, Tony started all over again. This time he convinced them that the Union was right. Margaret, who works only twenty hours a week, received a raise to the higher rate of pay and \$102.43 for the many months she had been underpaid.

LOCAL LAUGHS

AH! HERE'S MY TRAIN! HOPE I GET A SEAT. I'VE HAD A TRYING DAY KEEPING "E" RATINGS DOWN TO A MINIMUM!!!



NOW TO LOOK AT MY "HOROSCOPE FOR TODAY" IT SHOULD READ "HORROR SCOPE," JUDGING BY MY LATEST READINGS!!



SAY JACK! I DON'T DIG YOU EXECUTIVES! ISN'T YOUR FUTURE ASSURED? WHY THE INFO FROM THE UNIVERSE??



LOOK, MAN, GET HIP!! WITH LOCAL 1-S AROUND IF I DON'T WATCH MY STARS I'LL BE SEEING THEM!!



TO THE EDITOR

NEW YORK
DEC 20
6:30 P.M.



THANKS AND GRATITUDE

Here is my health plan claim form, and receive with it all my thanks and gratitude, for it has saved me money and made me proud to be working and belonging to an organization which offers so much to its members.

I was not prepared financially for an operation—thinking of having a normal birth. I am glad to say though, that I'm well — together with my 3 lb.-6 oz. baby girl.

Thank you,
Estrella Zizzo

MANY THANKS

Many thanks for the card and gift sent to me by the Welfare Board during my recent hospitalization.

Few of us are aware of the wonderful coverage given us through the Union Health Plan until we have occasion to use it. I believe it is the best feature of the entire contract.

My sincere thanks to the many thoughtful people throughout the store who remembered me in their thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Molinaro, PKCS

SURPRISE

Surprises are always in order, but never one so pleasant as the receipt of your gift. Such lovely flowers!

Your kindness and consideration is truly appreciated. I fully understand now why my husband always speaks so highly and enthusiastically about everyone connected with Local 1-S.

Thanking you again, I remain,
Respectfully yours,
Mrs. John A. Malone
and Baby Mark

SINCERE THANKS

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Welfare Board and to the members of the Committee who so generously gave a contribution to the Cooper Memorial Fund as a living memorial to the memory of my son, Dr. Lee O. Snook of Wesley, Iowa.

Sincerely,
Hazel Horder

AT SUCH A TIME

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the excellent Health Plan which Local 1-S maintains. It was a tremendous help to me in my husband's illness. It relieved me of hospital and doctor bills to face after his death.

At such a time, when so many things must be done, it is very much appreciated when some of the burden is lifted from our shoulders.

Again, thank you for having such and excellent plan.

Very truly yours,
Rose Parner

HELP AND KINDNESS

My family and I wish to thank Local 1-S for your kindness during my illness.

The Health Plan was a great help and comfort. I wish to also thank the Welfare Board for sending me the lovely personal gift.

Your help and kindness during this critical period shall always be remembered by us.

Sincerely,
Madeline Manieri, Dept. 67

GOOD DEED DONE

For a good deed done, when I needed blood—thanks to the Blood Bank. I wish that it would be possible to do something more tangible in the way of thanks.

With my best wishes, thanks again.

Fraternally yours,
Rose Hochner, Dept. 15

A NICE SUM

On behalf of my husband and myself I thank you for your check which I received. It is wonderful to be able to say that it reduced my doctor bill a nice sum, which was a big help to me. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lottie Moss, Dept. 160

THE HEARNS STRIKE

As the one who proposed the resolution on the Hearn's strike at the last Shop Steward's conference, I was glad to see it pass unanimously.

The lack of membership participation in the strike, it seems to me, it that our members do not clearly see the relationship of the Hearn's strike and its meaning to all workers in the department store field.

Let us examine the issues of the strike and try to find out what is behind the new scheme being perpetrated against not only the Hearn's strikers but against all department store workers.

The issues are clear and simple. The union demands are: 1) an end to the strike. 2) Reinstatement of the strikers. 3) Negotiation between the National CIO and the company of a contract, with unresolved issues being submitted to arbitration.

In defense of its anti-labor objectives, The Hearn's company is hiding under the cloak of "bad business". The company resorted to trying to make up the loss of business by a great number of layoffs. It reduced the staff from over 2000 to less than 800.

When the contract expired in February, 1953 the company refused to renew it. Mr. Greenfield was very "magnanimous". He was willing to sign a new agreement, but on his terms.

The terms are: (Note carefully!) No minimum wage. No health plan. No welfare plan. No seniority. No security. No severance pay. No grievance machinery. One more thing he demanded was that the union must agree to replace older employees with youngsters at—here it is! \$30 per week.

The reason is obvious; young horses run faster and cheaper. The speed-up can be put into high gear.

This is not all. Mr. Greenfield claims that in order to maintain and increase his profits he must have a free hand to change his system of business transactions as he sees fit, without regard for his employees.

To do that, he can not deal with, as he calls it, un-American unions. He insists on bona fide "American" unions.

Let us lift the smokescreen of hypocrisy and un-mask the new, anti-union design of the Hearn's company.

No one questions the right of the employer to his profits. He invests his money and expects

a reward. But, does the same principle apply to the employee? The worker invests, not money, but hard work, sweat and many years of faithful service. Hasn't he also the right to a reward? Has he the right to his job?

Is it the responsibility of the employer to provide his employee with the means to make a decent living?

Is a worker entitled to job security, seniority, severance pay, health and welfare plans and other benefits?

Is any demand that workers ask of their employers, in order to improve their living conditions, un-American or "red"? Any union that comes out fighting for the rightful demands of the workers will be labelled as such! Who shall decide if a union is bona fide. Mr. Greenfield, or the members of that union?

There are no pat answers to these questions. It seems to me that these problems cannot be solved by our union alone. This is a job for every union in the department store field.

The "Greenfield Plan" is not a "Hearn's Exclusive". Today it is at Hearn's. Tomorrow—in one of our stores.

It is clear that the Hearn's strike is only the first in line in the fight of department store employers against unions. The other department store owners are sitting back and awaiting the outcome of this fight.

The question arises—what can be done?

First and foremost, we must help the Hearn's strikers win their strike.

I would like to make a plea to our members to come out on the picketline at 14th Street and 5th Avenue and 149th Street and 3rd Avenue in the Bronx, on Thursday evenings and on Saturdays. Also we can help them with money and food.

Secondly, our Union should get together with all the other department store unions and plan joint action against all department store owners on the prevailing problems confronting all workers.

On the basis of understanding our problems, and discussing them jointly, we can, I am sure, beat back all attacks against our rights to our jobs and our rights to make a decent living for ourselves and our families.

Joint action brings victory!

I would like to hear comments about the issues I raised. Pick up your pen and let's hear from you.

I. Katz

I AM PROUD

Words cannot express my gratitude to the Union. This is the fifth sheet of paper and I still cannot say how I feel.

I want to thank Sam Kovenetsky, George Gurian, Phil Hoffstein, Tom Raffaele and the members of Local 1-S for helping me win my case.

I am proud to belong to Local 1-S again. I can only thank God and pray that we will always have leaders such as Sam Kovenetsky and his assistants and as well a membership as we now have.

God bless you.

Sincerely yours,
Frances Leggio, Tables

OFFICIAL NOTICE Divisional Meeting Schedule

This is the only official notice to be given for Divisional Meetings. Admission will be by 1953 Union card.

liable to a \$2 assessment to Welfare Fund as provided by Article IX, Section 4 of the 1-S Constitution.

An unexcused absence will be BE SURE TO ATTEND!

GROUP	DATE	TIME	PLACE
7 FL. (PT-FT) **	Tues. Sept. 15	6:45	Auditorium***
MTE	Tues. Sept. 15	6:45	Conference***
3 Floor (PT) *	Wed. Sept. 16	5:00	Auditorium
3 Floor (FT) *	Wed. Sept. 16	6:45	Auditorium
Food Dept. (PT-FT)	Wed. Sept. 16	4:45 & 7:15 p.m.	Conference
Parkchester	Mon. Sept. 21	6:00	Chester House
DA (PT-FT)	Tues. Sept. 22	6:30	Auditorium
Main Floor (PT-FT) **	Wed. Sept. 23	6:45	Auditorium
Comp. Shopping	Thurs. Sept. 24	6:00	Auditorium
5 Floor (PT)	Fri. Sept. 25	5:00	Auditorium
5 Floor (FT)	Fri. Sept. 25	6:45	Auditorium
Supply & FSM (PT)	Fri. Sept. 25	4:30	Conference
Supply & FSM (FT)	Fri. Sept. 25	6:30	Conference
White Plains	Mon. Sept. 28	6:15	UE Hall
Packing (PT-FT) **	Wed. Sept. 30	6:45	Auditorium
6 Floor (PT)	Fri. Oct. 2	5:00	Auditorium
6 Floor (FT)	Fri. Oct. 2	6:30	Auditorium
{ Adv.-Display			
{ B. Stand's (PT)	Mon. Oct. 5	4:30	Auditorium
{ Adv.-Display			
{ B. Stand's (FT)	Mon. Oct. 5	6:30	Auditorium
Receiving	Tues. Oct. 6	6:30	Auditorium
Controllers (PT-FT) **	Wed. Oct. 7	6:30	Auditorium
9 Floor	Fri. Oct. 9	6:45	Auditorium
Basement (PT)	Tues. Oct. 13	5:00	Auditorium
Basement (FT)	Tues. Oct. 13	6:45	Auditorium
Mfg. (PT-FT)	Wed. Oct. 14	6:30	Auditorium
4 Floor (PT)	Fri. Oct. 16	5:00	Auditorium
4 Floor (FT)	Fri. Oct. 16	6:45	Auditorium
Flatbush	Mon. Oct. 19	6:45	Astor
ASD (PT)	Wed. Oct. 21	4:30	Auditorium
ASD (FT)	Wed. Oct. 21	6:30	Auditorium
8 Floor (PT)	Fri. Oct. 24	5:00	Auditorium
8 Floor (FT)	Fri. Oct. 24	6:45	Auditorium
Jamaica	Wed. Oct. 28	6:15	Grace Church
2 Floor (PT)	Wed. Oct. 28	5:00	Auditorium
2 Floor (FT)	Wed. Oct. 28	6:45	Auditorium
Housekeeping	Fri. Oct. 30	10:15 & 11:15 a.m.	Auditorium
		3:15 & 6:15 p.m.	

*PT, Part-Time, FT, Full-Time

**Combined PT-FT Meeting to elect Executive Board member

***At Union office, 290 Seventh Avenue (Between 26 & 27 St.)

PERSONALS

FOR SALE—Complete bedroom set, living room couch, tables, wicker porch set, dining room, wardrobes, carpets, dishes, etc. Moving to smaller place. Call FA 7-1043 after 5 P.M. weekdays, all day Sat. & Sun.

FOR SALE—I inch micrometer, Brown & Sharpe, graduated in tenths. Used only once. Packed in original wood box. Spotless. Call UL 9-1400 after 7 P.M. except Thursday or Friday.

FOR SALE—Bendix automatic washer. Reasonable. Phone TO 2-5810 after 8 P.M.

WANTED—Small radio for blind lady robbed of hers. Very reasonable. Call JA 3-6708 after 8:30 P.M.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

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